THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • WEDNESDAY • JUNE 05, 2024 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 22 • LATE CITY EDITION

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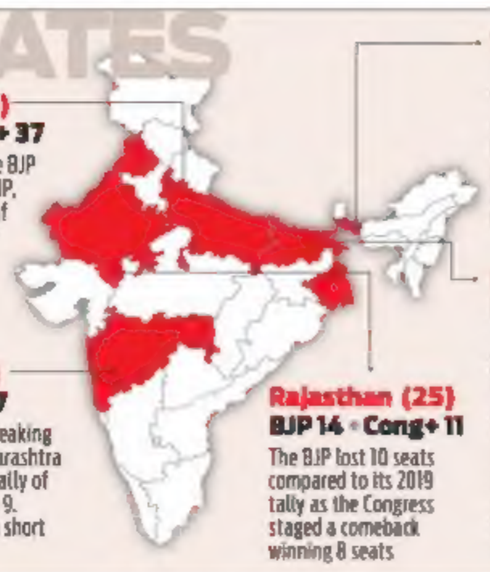
SWING STATES

While the BJP-led NDA is expected to form the next government at the Centre, the saffron party is shorn of its 2019 performance to become the single largest party short of majority. The Congress-led INDIA bloc put up a spirited fight in the key states that have the potential to turn the tide



Uttar Pradesh (80)
SP+Cong 43 • BJP+ 37
The biggest setback for the BJP came from its stronghold UP, which had given it 62 out of 80 seats in 2019. The tally has dropped to 33, a drastic fall of 29. Those seats have gone to the Congress-SP combine

Maharashtra (48)
Cong+ 30 • BJP+ 17
The BJP's experiment of breaking up regional parties in Maharashtra backfired. The BJP's 2019 tally of 23 seats has come down to 9. And that of NDA has fallen short of its target of 45

West Bengal (42)
TMC 29 • BJP 12 • Cong 1
TMC proved BJP's much-hyped projections to sweep West Bengal wrong as the Mamata Banerjee-led party increased not only its seats but also the vote share. In the last Lok Sabha polls in 2019, the Trinamool had won 22 seats, the BJP 18, and the Congress two seats

Bihar (40)
BJP+ 29 • RJD+ 9
The NDA had swept Bihar in 2019, winning 39 out of the 40 seats. In 2024, the alliance's tally is down by 11 as the BJP's seats fell from 17 to 12 and JD(U)'s from 16 to 12. This time, the regional party will have a bigger say as it will be a crucial partner in the NDA

Rajasthan (25)
BJP 14 • Cong+ 11
The BJP lost 10 seats compared to its 2019 tally as the Congress staged a comeback winning 8 seats

- BJP: **241**
- TDP: **16**
- JD(U): **12**
- SHIV SENA (SHINDE): **7**
- LJP (RV): **5**
- JDS: **2**
- RLD: **2**
- OTH: **8**

* Win/Lead

- CONG: **99**
- SP: **37**
- TMC: **29**
- DMK: **22**
- SHIV SENA (UDDHAV): **9**
- NCP (S): **7**
- OTH: **30**

← **OTHERS: 17**

Punjab (13)
Cong 7 • AAP 3 • BJP 0
The BJP scored zero in the state as the Congress made a comeback and the AAP improved on its 2019 tally. Among those won include jailed Khalistani separatist Amritpal Singh, who wrested the Khadoor Sahib seat by 1.97 lakh votes as an Independent

- Nitish, Naidu to participate in NDA meet today, expected to give letters of support
- Oppn offers Dy PM post to Nitish, special status for Andhra to woo Naidu
- SP's stellar show was gamechanger
- Big gains for INDIA bloc in Maharashtra
- Didi retains turf

WHITTLED DOWN MODI 3.0

Narendra Modi greets supporters in New Delhi on Tuesday; Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi leave after attending a press conference in New Delhi | SHEKHAR YADAV, PARVEEN NEGI

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR AND PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE BJP-led NDA on Tuesday appeared poised to retain power at the Centre for a third consecutive term, though the saffron party dramatically fell short of a majority on its own in the Lok Sabha.

From a high of 303 in 2019, the BJP could manage just 240 (leads + wins), 32 short of a simple majority. It smoked out the BJP's stability plank as the government's survival would depend on demanding allies like JD(U)'s Nitish Kumar and TDP's Chandrababu Naidu.

The JD(U) has leads/victories in 12 seats while the corresponding figure for the TDP was 16.

However, in his first speech after the results came in, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid out his vision for the third term saying it would be a tenure of big decisions with specific emphasis on uprooting corruption.

DECODE LS POLLS '24 DECIDE

Modi's target for the BJP to win 370 seats and for the NDA to cross 400 was a far cry as even potential big hitters like Smriti Irani in Amethi, Rajeev Chandrashekhar in Thiruvananthapuram and R K Singh in Arrah were defeated.

Despite its diminished tally, the NDA is expected to stake its claim to form the new government. The NDA will take its final call at its meeting on Wednesday, which will be attended by Nitish and Naidu. They are expected to give their letters of support to the BJP.

As for the Opposition, it is not leaving any stone unturned to lure Nitish and Naidu, who emerged as the potential kingmakers. According to sources, the post of Deputy Prime Minister to Nitish and a promise of special status for Andhra Pradesh are on the table if the parties extend their support to the INDIA bloc.

While senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh tweeted assuring that the party will grant special status to Andhra, sources said that NCP leader Sharad Pawar is in talks with Naidu and Nitish. While both leaders are infamous for shifting alliances, they rejoined the NDA ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Manoj Kumar Jha told reporters in Patna that both Nitish and Naidu are expected to switch to the INDIA bloc.

At a press conference in Delhi, Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge said the party will hold talks with its allies and "new partners". A decision will be taken after consulting all INDIA bloc partners on Wednesday, said Kharge.

The gamechanger was the Samajwadi Party, which gave the INDIA bloc an unexpected boost of 37 (wins and leads) in Uttar Pradesh. The Trinamool Congress, too did spectacularly well with 29 seats in West Bengal, higher than its 22 in 2019.

Maharashtra gave the BJP-led alliance a decisive blow with just 17 seats. The BJP had independently won 23 seats five years ago. In contrast, the INDIA bloc got 29.

However, the BJP wrested power in Odisha from the ruling Biju Janata Dal. In Andhra Pradesh, the TDP did likewise against the YSR Congress.

The BJP made inroads in Kerala by winning a seat in a state where the Congress and the Left are the major political force. In Telangana, it won eight seats.

2 STATES TO GET NEW CMs

BJP ends 25-year grip of Naveen over Odisha

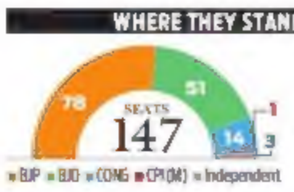
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

CURTAINS came down on Tuesday on the 25-year rule of BJD head and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik in Odisha as the BJP virtually swept both the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in the state and is set to form the new government on June 10.

The impact of the verdict is not restricted to the political future of Naveen but also of the BJD that dominated the state for over 15 years. The party formed by Naveen Patnaik in 1997 had come to power in 2000 with the BJP as its ally. It gained from strength to strength even after breaking the alliance just before 2009 elections. Patnaik and his party had then developed an aura of invincibility following victories in five consecutive elections.

However, this election put a spanner in the BJD's bid for a record sixth term. Such has been the extent of BJP surge that the chief minister who had withstood the Modi wave in 2014 and 2019, fell to a little-known Laxman Bag of the BJP in Kantabanji, which he contested as the second seat, by over 15,000 votes. Naveen, however, won from his traditional stronghold Hinjili in Ganjam district.

WHERE THEY STAND



74 HALFWAY

Naidu's historic comeback blows out Jagan's party

P HAREESH @ Vijayawada

IN a historic comeback, the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), in alliance with the BJP and actor Pawan Kalyan's Jana Sena Party (JSP), stormed to power in Andhra Pradesh, winning 163 out of the 175 assembly constituencies and 21 out of the 25 Lok Sabha segments.

The stunning mandate left the YSRC of outgoing chief minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy reeling with just 12 assembly and four Lok Sabha seats, a far cry from the 151 assembly and 22 parliamentary constituencies it won in 2019.

Except for Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy and Jagan himself, none of the cabinet ministers could win. In Jagan's citadel Kadapa too, the party could hold onto only three seats.

TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu in November 2021 had declared on the floor of the assembly that he would re-enter the House again only as CM. His victory march is impressive. From North Andhra to Rayalaseema, the NDA showed total dominance. The YSRC could not open its account in as many as eight undivided districts. It could not even put up an impressive performance in Rayalaseema where it clinched a majority of seats in 2019.

WHERE THEY STAND

88 HALFWAY

BARAMULLA — Omar Abdullah *(NC)* — Margin: 2.04 lakh
COIMBATORE — Annamalai K *(BJP)* — Margin: 1.18 lakh
BAHARAMPUR — Adhir Ranjan *(Cong)* — Margin: 85,459
T'PURAM — R Chandrasekhar *(BJP)* — Margin: 16,077
AMETHI — Smriti Irani *(BJP)* — Defeat margin: 1,67,196
GANDHINAGAR — Amit Shah *(BJP)* — Win margin: 7,44,716
VIDISHA — Shivraj Chauhan *(BJP)* — Margin: 8.2 Lakh
GUNA — J Scindia *(BJP)* — Margin: 5.4L
RAE BARELI — Rahul Gandhi *(Cong)* — Margin: 3.9L
HYDERABAD — A Owaisi *(AIMIM)* — Margin: 3.3L

LOSER/WINNER

BJP'S SHANKAR LALWANI WON BY A POTENTIALLY RECORD MARGIN OF **10,08,077 VOTES IN INDORE**

Different strokes

People have placed their faith in NDA for a third consecutive time! This is a historic feat in India's history. I bow to the Janata Janardan for this affection

Narendra Modi

The people of India have saved the Constitution and democracy. The deprived and poor population of the country stood with INDIA to protect their rights

Rahul Gandhi

PM Modi has lost all credibility, he should immediately resign. The PM broke many parties and now people have broken his morale. Modi is now falling at the feet of TDP and Nitish to form the government

Mamata Banerjee

We fought the elections by raising issues concerning people like unemployment and inflation. We are committed to continue highlighting the issues of people

Sharad Pawar

KARNATAKA

BJP supporters celebrate the victory of Bangalore Central candidate PC Mohan in Bengaluru on Tuesday | ALLEN GOKHUSEJ

Cong fails to reach double-digit; BJP, JDS manage 19 seats

RAMU PATIL @ Bengaluru

A year after its defeat in the Assembly elections, the BJP managed to make a comeback by winning 17 of the 28 Lok Sabha seats, while its alliance partner JDS won two, taking the NDA tally to 19 in Karnataka.

The ruling Congress, which heavily banked on its guarantee schemes and hoped to make big gains, had to be content with nine seats.

But compared to the 2019 LS elections in which it had won just one seat, Congress' tally increased significantly this time. However, it could not reach its target of winning double-digit seats. "We were not able to win LS seats as per our expectations. We were hoping to win 15-20 seats," Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said.

The last time Congress reached double digits in Lok Sabha seats in the state was in 1999. However, compared to the last general elections, Congress' vote share increased from 32.11% to 45.43%, BJP's reduced from 51.75% to 46.06%, while JDS' stood at 5.60%. In the 2023 Assembly polls, the Congress' vote share was 42.88%, BJP's 36% and JDS' 13.29%. The 2024 LS poll results in Karnataka have a striking similarity with the 2014 polls when BJP won 17, Congress 9, and JDS two seats. But JDS was not in an alliance with BJP then. Siddaramaiah was CM then and Lok Sabha polls were held a year after Congress won the Assembly polls in 2013.

Congress had high expectations from Karnataka and its campaign was mostly centered around Siddaramaiah government's guarantee schemes as well as highlighting the Centre's alleged disparity in devolution of taxes and releasing drought relief funds. Perhaps, the guarantees have not worked to the extent the Congress leaders expected. "It is difficult to say that. We expected 14 seats, but we did not get the expected results from Kittur Karnataka and Bengaluru," Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president DK Shivakumar said, responding to a question on whether the guarantees failed to work.

Most of the seats for the party came from the North Karnataka region, especially from Kalyan Karnataka, the home turf of AICC president M Mallikarjun Kharge.

FULL COVERAGE: P2, P4, P5, P6, P7

UNDERWHELMING OUTCOME

Markets register biggest single-day fall in 4 years

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

INDIA's equity market indices registered their biggest single-day fall in four years on Tuesday as Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Bharatiya Janata Party failed to clinch 272 seats on its own. While the BJP-led NDA is set to form government, the seat tally is way lower than market estimates and exit poll results.

The BSE Sensex closed the Tuesday session with a loss of 4,390 points, or 5.74%, at 72,079.05, while the Nifty 50 ended with a cut of 1,379 points, or 5.93%, at 21,884.50. At one point, the Sensex was down 6,100 points and the Nifty gave away 1,600 points. On Tuesday, investors lost a whopping ₹31 lakh crore as the market capitalisation of all BSE listed firms came down to ₹395 lakh crore from ₹426 lakh crore. "The unexpected poll outcome sparked a wave of fear selling in the domestic market," said Vinod Nair, head of research at Geojit Financial Services.

The selling pressure was so intense that it reminded market watchers of the 15% Sensex crash in 2004 over the surprise loss of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.

INSIDE

Modi calls 3rd term as 'historic feat', vows to take big moves | P9

In Bengal story, Didi is matchless | P12

Maha drubbing for BJP and allies as Cong wins 13 seats | P12

Manipur votes out BJP, Congress' score up in Northeast | P12

Market may see short-term volatility | P15

Though BJP fails to get majority, it will go ahead with 100-day plan | P15